

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FOR NEA/RA, IO/IOC, S/S-S; FOR AID NE/TECH - RICHTER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJECT: DRAFT COMMUNIQUE FOR MAY 26-27

1. CENTO SECRETARIAT MAY 5 DISTRIBUTED FOR REVIEW BY MEMBER COUNTRIES THE FOLLOWING DRAFT OF A COMMUNIQUE TO SERVE AS THE BASES FOR STEERING COMMITTEE DURING THE MAY 26-27 MINISTERIAL MEETING:

BEGIN TEXT

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DRAFT

FINAL PRESS COMMUNIQUE

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE CENTRAL TREATY ORGANIZATION HELD ITS 23RD SESSION IN LONDON ON MAY 26-27, 1976. THE DELEGATIONS WERE LED BY H.E. DR. ABBAS ALI KHALATBARY, FOREIGN MINISTER OF IRAN, HE.E. MR. AZIZ AHMED, MINISTER OF STATE FOR
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DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF PAKISTAN, H.E. MR. IHSAN SABRI

CAGLAYANGIL, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF TURKEY, THE RT. HON. ANTHONY CROSLAND, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE HON. DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.E. MR. UMIT HALUK BAYULKEN, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL TREATY ORGANIZATION PRESIDED AT THE OPENING MEETING OF THE SESSION. A MESSAGE OF WELCOME FROM HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN WAS DELIVERED IN THE OPENING ADDRESS BY THE RT. HON. JAMES CALLAGHAN, PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY OPENING STATEMENTS BY THE LEADERS OF THE DELEGATIONS, AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF CENTO, EXPRESSING THEIR APPRECIATION FOR HER MAJESTY'S GRACIOUS MESSAGE AND THE WARM HOSPITALITY OF THE HOST GOVERNMENT. THE RT. HON. ANTHONY CROSLAND, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, PRESIDED THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

THE MINISTERS HAD A WIDE-RANGING AND CONSTRUCTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, GIVING SPECIAL ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF INTEREST IN THE CENTO REGION AND NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT PEACE, STABILITY, AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS WAS MAINTAINED IN THE REGION. THE MINISTERS ALSO REVIEWED INTENSIVELY THE PROGRESS TOWARDS FURTHER PROMOTING COOPERATION WITHIN THE ALLIANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FIELDS. THEY ALSO PLEDGED CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR THE CENTRAL TREATY ORGANIZATION. MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL MADE STATEMENTS REGARDING PROBLEMS AND DEVELOPMENTS FOR PEACE AND SECURITY WHICH ARE OF SPECIAL INTEREST AND IMPORTANCE FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES.

MINISTERS REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE THEIR LAST MEETING. THEY NOTED WITH CONCERN THE FACTIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS WHICH WERE GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME IN LEBANON AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE LEBANESE PEOPLE AS A WHOLE MIGHT FIND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEMS WITHOUT ANY FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN PRESERVING THEIR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. THEY ALSO SHARED COMMON CONCERN AT THE DANGER OF NEW TENSIONS THAT COULD EFFECT THE SITUATION

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IN THE REGION. THEY REAFFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO THE CONTINUATION OF EFFORTS DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT RESULTING IN A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

MINISTERS NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE PROGRESS MADE DURING THE PAST YEAR TOWARDS NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTH ASIAN SUB-CONTINENT, AND THEY POINTED OUT THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING THE TALKS CARRIED OUT IN VARIOUS FIELDS BETWEEN

PAKISTAN AND COUNTRIES OF THE REGION WITH A VIEW TO NORMALIZING THE RELATIONS AMONG THEM AND THUS PAVING THE WAY FOR A DURABLE PEACE AND SECURITY IN SOUTH ASIA.

THE COUNCIL REAFFIRMED ITS AGREEMENT THAT THE ECONOMIC PROGRAM CONSTITUTES AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF THE CENTO PARTNERSHIP. THE MINISTERS BEARING IN MIND THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY CENTO TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ECONOMIC LINK BETWEEN THE REGIONAL COUNTRIES, ENDORSED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER SEVERAL NEW PROJECTS TO EXPAND RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURE, AIMED AT INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY OR IMPROVING MARKETING OF FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE REGIONAL COUNTRIES, AND ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR PLEASURE AT THE CONTINUING PROGRESS IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION FACILITIES IN THE REGION. THEY WELCOMED THE PLANS FOR FURTHER UPGRADING THE MICRO-WAVE SYSTEM LINKING IRAN, PAKISTAN AND TURKEY WITH PARTICULAR INTEREST SHOWN IN THE PLANS OF PAKISTAN AND AN OFFER BY THE UNITED STATES TO PROVIDE A GRANT TO COVER SOME OF THE COSTS. THE MINISTERS ALSO WELCOMED THE OFFERS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF THE DONATION MADE ANNUALLY FOR SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT, AND THAT OF THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH A BOOK PROGRAMME FOR THE SUPPLY OF FARSI LANGUAGE BOOKS TO PAKISTAN AND TURKEY. THEY ALSO AGREED ON EXPANDING THE PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COLLABORATION AND WILL INCREASE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CENTO MULTILATERAL SCIENTIFIC FUND FOR THIS PURPOSE.

THE MINISTERS NOTED THE REPORT OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE PROGRESS MADE DURING THE PAST YEAR IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF COOPERATION AMONG THE PARTNERS IN THE MILITARY FIELD.

THE MINISTERS CONSIDERED THE CONTINUING THREATS OF SUBVERSION
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DIRECTED TOWARDS THE REGION AND EXPRESSED THE DETERMINATION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO MEET ANY SUCH SUBVERSION WITH ALL THE MEANS AT THEIR DISPOSAL.

CONCLUDING THEIR REVIEW, THE MINISTERS NOTED WITH APPRECIATION THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL. THEY REAFFIRMED THEIR DETERMINATION TO ENSURE THAT THE ALLIANCE CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY OF THE REGION, AND TO PROMOTE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELFARE OF ITS PEOPLE.

THE MINISTERS ALSO ENDORSED A RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER EXPANDING THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMME AND CULTURAL COOPERATION AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE.

THE COUNCIL ACCEPTED THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF -----

TO HOLD THE NEXT SESSION IN MAY 1977 IN ----.

END OF TEXT.

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